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## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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As you know, not long ago we wrote a letter asking you to pursue a cleanup of the Maline Creek Asbestos site (aka Certainteed site) using CERCLA authority. Since then, events have transpired which have caused us to reconsider our position on this issue. Of greatest significance has been the willingness of the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) to negotiate with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for a cleanup of the site under state regulatory authority. Therefore, we intend to maintain control over the Maline Creek site, given that we will be successful in negotiating a consensual agreement with the PRPs.

At present we are negotiating with Certainteed and GAF Corporations to conduct a response action under our "Spill Bill" authority (RSMo 260.500). Because the site poses an imminent and substantial threat to public health, we will require the PRPs address the site in a manner very similar to a Removal Action under CERCLA.

We hope to have an Abatement Order on Consent (AOC) signed within the next 30 to 60 days. At a minimum, the AOC will require the PRPs to permanently repair the breached landfill and clean up Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) in and around Maline Creek. A brief investigative phase will precede cleanup activities. The scope of cleanup may expand, depending on the findings of the investigation.

Recent analysis of split soil samples collected by PSI, a contractor for the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors, indicates that there may be significant asbestos contamination in exterior soils in the flood buyout area. Although PSI's own analyses indicated no asbestos, MDNR's Air Pollution Control Program utilized a different analytical procedure which revealed the presence of asbestos in several split samples. Because this data was just received, we are currently assessing its impact on the project.

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As you are aware, if we are unable to effect a cleanup of the site through consensual negotiations with the PRPs, we will transfer authority to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to pursue a CERCLA response action. In such an event, it is our understanding that EPA would issue a Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) to the PRPs to conduct a Removal Action. EPA would not attempt consensual negotiations because this would duplicate the efforts taken by the MDNR. Of course, we would refer the site to you only after exhausting all efforts to obtain a consensual cleanup by the PRPs.

We will continue to keep you apprised of site status as activities transpire. In the past we have coordinated with Mr. Paul Doherty, and will continue to do so unless you inform us otherwise. The MDNR contact for negotiations with the PRPs is Mr. Ed Sadler, and the Project Manager for the site is Mr. Jalal El-Jayyousi. If you have any questions, please contact me at (314) 751-3176.

Sincerely,

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

JAY:SWS:dlh

c: Mr. Gary T. Behrns, Chief, Superfund Section

Mr. Jalal El-Jayyousi, Superfund Section

Mr. Steve Feeler, Air Pollution Control Program

Mr. Tom Kruse, Air Pollution Control Program

Mr. Mike Potter, Solid Waste Management Program

Mr. Daryl Roberts, Missouri Department of Health

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File: Maline Creek